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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 2023, Box AF, on March 17, 2003.

Diane Blevins

MAR 2 5 2003 8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Laurent HUMEAU, et al.

Serial No.:

09/819,401

Filing Date:

March 27, 2001

For:

IMPROVED CONDITIONALLY REPLICATING VECTORS FOR INHIBITING VIRAL INFECTIONS

Examiner: Bao Q. Li

Group Art Unit: 1648

ECH CENTER 1600/290

MAR 9 & 2003

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant petitions the Assistant Commissioner for Patents under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for a further response to the Advisory Office action dated January 15, 2003, which is the date of expiration of the shortened period for responding to the Office Action made "final" mailed October 10, 2002. Accordingly, this extension will extend the time for response to Saturday, March 15, 2003.

- A two month extension is requested; the extension fee is \$205.00
- Charge \$205.00 to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. <u>397272000700</u>.

03/26/2003 CCHAU1

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205.00 CH

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this petition, or to credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. <u>397272000700</u>. A duplicate copy of this petition is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March <u>17</u>, 2003

By:

Kawai Lau Registration No. 44,461

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